

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/631,337

Applicant(s)

MIAN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Dismery E. Mercedes

2651

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed January 3, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 9-14 and 16-41.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 11/8/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ervin F. Johnston (Reg. No. 20,190) on June 08, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 1, page 2, line 7 of Amendment:

"the read head and the stabilizer being separate structures" is being replaced with: the read head and the stabilizer being separate stand-alone structures, so that the read head and the stabilizer operate independently.

In Claim 21, page 5, line 7, of Amendment:

"forming the read head and the stabilizer as separate structures" is being replaced with: forming the read and the stabilizer as separate and stand-alone structures, so that that the read and the stabilizer operate independently.

In Claim 31, page 6, lines 4-5, of Amendment:

"simultaneously with said reading, employing a stabilizer, which is a separate and a stand-alone structure from the read head, so that the read and the stabilizer operate independently, for introducing a field into a portion of a bottom underlayer directly below the recorded

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent Claims 1, 21 and 31 are allowable over Prior Art of Record, since the cited references taken alone or in combination, in particular, Seigler et al. (US 2002/0145832 A1), Khizroev et al. (US 6,667,848 B1) do to teach or suggest: *the read head and the stabilizer being separate stand-alone structures, so that the read head and the stabilizer operate independently.*

Independent Claim 32, is allowable over Prior Art of Record, since the cited references taken alone or in combination, in particular, Seigler et al. (US 2002/0145832 A1), Khizroev et al. (US 6,667,848 B1) do to teach or suggest: *the read sensor and the stabilizer being separate structures and magnetically decoupled with respect to one another.*

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Seigler et al. (US 2002/0145832 A1), Khizroev et al. (US 6,667,848 B1), Dimitrov et al. (US 2002/0075586 A1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dismery E. Mercedes whose telephone number is 571-272-7558. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, from 9:00am - 4:00pm.


Art Unit: 2651

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571-272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dismery E Mercedes  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2651

DM



DAVID HUDSPETH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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